

Notice of Allowability

Application No.

10/066,486

Examiner

Bing Q. Bui

Applicant(s)

MANSFIELD ET AL.

Art Unit

2642

-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address--

All claims being allowable, PROSECUTION ON THE MERITS IS (OR REMAINS) CLOSED in this application. If not included herewith (or previously mailed), a Notice of Allowance (PTOL-85) or other appropriate communication will be mailed in due course. **THIS NOTICE OF ALLOWABILITY IS NOT A GRANT OF PATENT RIGHTS.** This application is subject to withdrawal from issue at the initiative of the Office or upon petition by the applicant. See 37 CFR 1.313 and MPEP 1308.

1. ☒ This communication is responsive to Applicant's arguments filed on 9/19/2005.
2. ☒ The allowed claim(s) is/are 1-2, 4-11, 13-22, 46-48, 23-33, 35-36, 39-45 and 49-54 (renumbered as 1-49, respectively).
3. ☐ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).
- a) ☐ All b) ☐ Some* c) ☐ None of the:
1. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
2. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. _____.
3. ☐ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this national stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).

* Certified copies not received: _____.

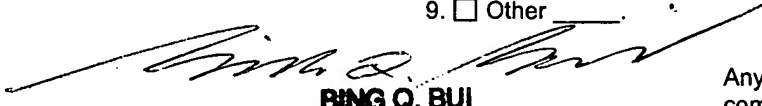
Applicant has THREE MONTHS FROM THE "MAILING DATE" of this communication to file a reply complying with the requirements noted below. Failure to timely comply will result in ABANDONMENT of this application.

THIS THREE-MONTH PERIOD IS NOT EXTENDABLE.

4. ☐ A SUBSTITUTE OATH OR DECLARATION must be submitted. Note the attached EXAMINER'S AMENDMENT or NOTICE OF INFORMAL PATENT APPLICATION (PTO-152) which gives reason(s) why the oath or declaration is deficient.
5. ☐ CORRECTED DRAWINGS (as "replacement sheets") must be submitted.
- (a) ☐ including changes required by the Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948) attached
- 1) ☐ hereto or 2) ☐ to Paper No./Mail Date _____.
- (b) ☐ including changes required by the attached Examiner's Amendment / Comment or in the Office action of Paper No./Mail Date _____.
- Identifying indicia such as the application number (see 37 CFR 1.84(c)) should be written on the drawings in the front (not the back) of each sheet. Replacement sheet(s) should be labeled as such in the header according to 37 CFR 1.121(d).
6. ☐ DEPOSIT OF and/or INFORMATION about the deposit of BIOLOGICAL MATERIAL must be submitted. Note the attached Examiner's comment regarding REQUIREMENT FOR THE DEPOSIT OF BIOLOGICAL MATERIAL.

Attachment(s)

1. ☐ Notice of References Cited (PTO-892)
2. ☐ Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948)
3. ☐ Information Disclosure Statements (PTO-1449 or PTO/SB/08), Paper No./Mail Date _____
4. ☐ Examiner's Comment Regarding Requirement for Deposit of Biological Material
5. ☐ Notice of Informal Patent Application (PTO-152)
6. ☐ Interview Summary (PTO-413), Paper No./Mail Date _____
7. ☒ Examiner's Amendment/Comment
8. ☐ Examiner's Statement of Reasons for Allowance
9. ☐ Other _____


BING Q. BUI
PRIMARY EXAMINER

Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Bing Bui, Tel. No. (571) 272-7482.

Examiner's Amendment

1. An examiner's amendment to the record appears below. Should the changes and/or additions be unacceptable to applicant, an amendment may be filed as provided by 37 CFR 1.312. To ensure consideration of such an amendment, it MUST be submitted no later than the payment of the issue fee.

Authorization for this examiner's amendment was given in a telephone interview with David C. Ripma on 11/18/05.

In the claims

Claims 1 and 23 have been amended as follows:

1. In a Home Network telephone system, a method for controlling communications privacy, the method comprising:

- transceiving calls on at least one external telephone line, where each external telephone line is associated with a unique telephone number;
- supplying privacy and public mode bridging options;
- independently selecting private and public modes for each external telephone line;
- in response to the selecting the public mode for a first external telephone line, permitting bridges through a gateway, between the first external telephone line and any endpoint; and

in response to selecting the privacy mode for the first external telephone line, selectively excluding bridges through the gateway, between the first external telephone line and some but not all of the endpoints.

23. A Home Network telephone privacy management system comprising:
a gateway having a port for transceiving calls on at least one external telephone line, where each external telephone line is associated with a unique telephone number, a port for receiving public and privacy mode selection commands, independently for each external telephone line, and a port for establishing bridges to the external telephone lines;

a plurality of Home Network endpoints, each endpoint having a user interface to accept mode commands and external telephone line selection commands, each endpoint having a port connected to the gateway for supplying mode and external telephone line selection commands, each endpoint having a port for establishing bridges to external telephone lines through the gateway;

wherein the gateway, in response to the selection of the public mode for a first external telephone line, permits bridges between the first external telephone line and any endpoint; and

wherein the gateway, in response to the selection of the privacy mode for the first external telephone line, selectively excludes bridges between the first external telephone line and some but not all of the endpoints.

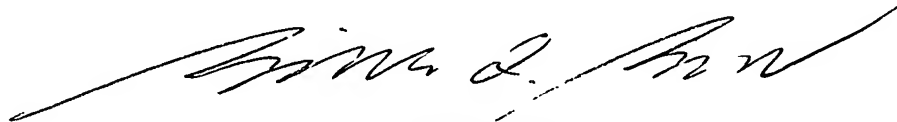
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2. Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Bing Bui, Tel. No. (571) 272-7482. The examiner can normally be reached on Monday through Thursday from 7:30 to 5:00.

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Ahmad Matar, can be reached on (571) 272-7488. The fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is (571) 273-8300 and for formal communications intended for entry (please label the response ☐EXPEDITED PROCEDURE☐) or for informal or draft communications not intended for entry (please label the response "PROPOSED" or "DRAFT").

Any inquiry of a general nature or relating to the status of this application or proceeding should be directed to the receptionist whose telephone number is (571) 272-2600.

Hector Agdeppa
Patent Examiner

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Bing Q. Bui', written in a cursive style.

BING Q. BUI
PRIMARY EXAMINER